

# Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed Land Conveyance at the Hanford Site, Richland, WA

Public Comment Period  
Fact Sheet

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has prepared a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess potential environmental effects of conveying approximately 1,641 acres of Hanford Site land to the Tri-City Development Council, the DOE-recognized Community Reuse Organization (CRO). The National Defense Authorization Act of 2015 requires DOE to transfer the land by September 30, 2015. DOE is seeking input on the completeness and factual accuracy of the data and any additional information that should be considered.



Available  
for Public  
Comment

July 13 – August 12

## Scoping process

In 2012, DOE announced its intent to prepare an EA to assess the potential environmental effects of conveying approximately 1,641 acres of Hanford Site land to the local CRO. During the EA scoping period, DOE received, and subsequently considered, comments from members of the public, agencies, and tribes. Most of the input addressed natural and cultural resources, the NEPA process, and socioeconomics.

## Land Suitable for Transfer

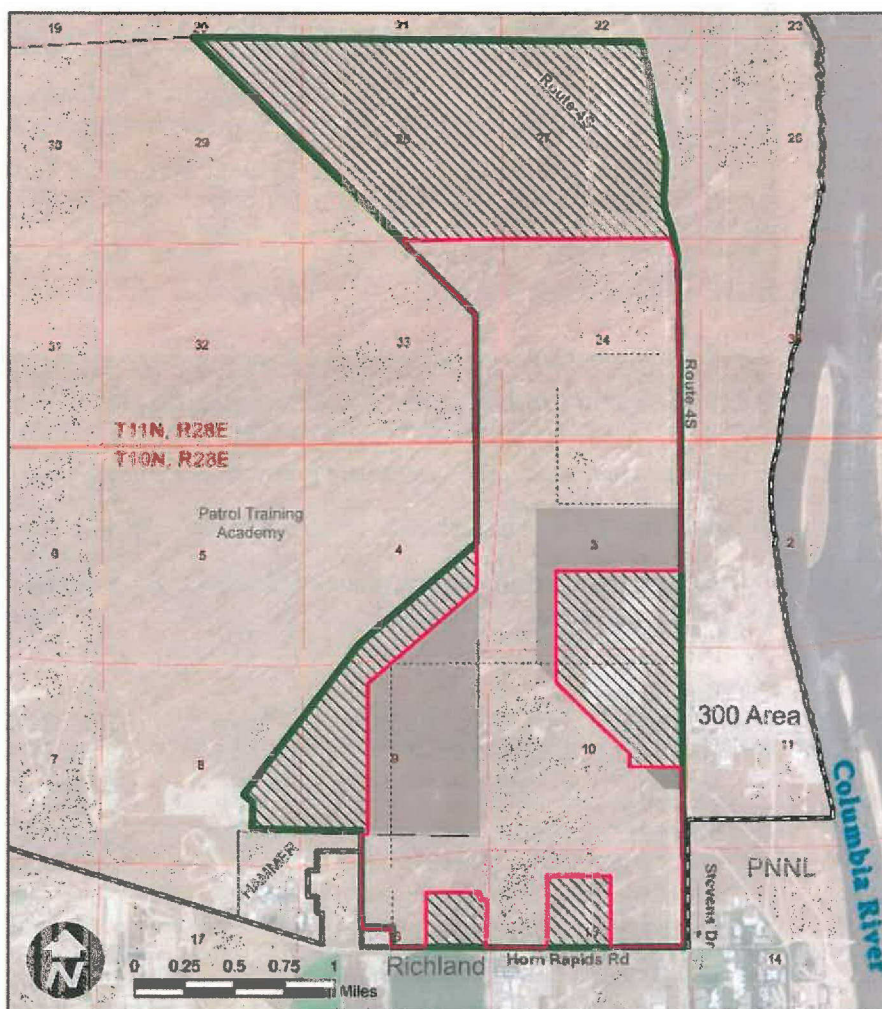
DOE conducted a land suitability review process that began with an initial Project Area of approximately 4,400 acres. Through this review process, DOE identified constraints or continuing DOE mission needs that currently prevent conveyance of some lands within the Project Area. DOE identified about 2,500 acres with greater suitability for conveyance, which became the Focused Study Area (FSA) (see map).

The approximately 1,641 acres that DOE would convey would be selected from the FSA. Within the FSA, approximately 539 acres are not suitable for transfer but could be used for utility corridors, via easement or other realty instrument. These 539 acres are referred to as the Potential Access Agreement Land (PAAL).

## Environmental Consequences

The draft EA analyzes the reasonably foreseeable environmental effects associated with the probable future uses of lands within the FSA.

DOE used analytical assumptions in the EA that would tend to maximize estimates of foreseeable environmental effects associated with footprint, infrastructure, utilities, emissions, construction activities, projected workforce and traffic, water usage, and similar requirements for site development.



Project Area (PA) – 4,413 acres  
Focused Study Area (FSA) – 2,474 acres  
Hanford Site Boundary

Land Not Suitable for Conveyance  
TRIDEC Land Request – 1,641 acres  
Potential Access Agreement Land (PAAL)  
– 539 acres



## Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed Land Conveyance at the Hanford Site, Richland, WA (continued)

### Environmental Consequences (continued)

The EA describes the reasonably foreseeable environmental effects associated with: geology; water resources; air quality; ecology resources; wetlands and floodplains; cultural resources; land use; visual resources; noise, vibration, and electromagnetic fields; utilities and infrastructure; transportation; waste management; socioeconomics and Environmental Justice; and human health and safety. The analysis also considers cumulative environmental effects and discusses potential mitigation measures.



A public meeting will be held **Thursday, July 30** at the **Hampton Inn, 486 Bradley Blvd, Richland, WA**. Open House from 5:00 – 5:30 pm, a Project Overview and Informal Q & A from 5:30 – 6:00 pm, and formal public comment from 6:00 – 7:00 pm.

### PUBLIC INPUT ON DRAFT EA REQUESTED

The 30-day public comment period for the draft EA is  
July 13, 2015 – August 12, 2015.

Please submit comments by August 12, 2015 to:

NEPA Document Manager  
Land Conveyance EA  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550, Mailstop A2-15  
Richland, Washington 99352

Or email:  
landconveyanceEA@rl.doe.gov

The draft EA can be found at [www.hanford.gov](http://www.hanford.gov) on the Hanford Events Calendar. It's also available for review at the Public Information Repositories listed below.



### Hanford Public Information Repository Locations

#### Portland

Portland State University Government Information  
Branford Price Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97207-1151  
Attn: Claudia Weston (503) 725-4542  
Map: <http://www.pdx.edu/map.html>

#### Seattle

University of Washington  
Suzallo Library  
Government Publications Division  
Seattle, WA 98195  
Attn: Hillary Reinert (206) 543-5597  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/m8ebj>

#### Richland

U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room  
Washington State University, Tri-Cities  
Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L  
2770 University Drive  
Richland, WA 99352  
Attn: Janice Parthree (509) 375-3308  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/2axam2>

#### Spokane

Gonzaga University  
Foley Center Library  
East 502 Boone Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99258  
Attn: John Spencer (509) 313-6110  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/2c6bpm>

### Administrative Record and Public Information Repository

Address: 2440 Stevens Center Place, Room 1101, Richland, WA 99352  
Phone: (509)-376-2530  
Website Address: <http://www5.hanford.gov/arpir>





**Department of Energy**  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

JUL 13 2015

15-SSD-0041

Addressees – See Attached

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
(EA) FOR THE PROPOSED CONVEYANCE OF LAND AT THE HANFORD SITE**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Richland Operations Office (RL) has prepared a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess potential environmental effects of conveying approximately 1,641 acres of Hanford Site land to the Tri-City Development Council.

The draft EA is available for a 30-day public comment period from July 13 to August 12, 2015. DOE is seeking input of the completeness and factual accuracy of the analysis and any additional information that should be considered in the EA.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2015 (NDAA) requires DOE to transfer the land by September 30, 2015. In addition to NEPA, transfer of Hanford Site federal lands requires DOE to complete the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 process, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 120 (h) process, and DOE Order 458.1, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment. The NHPA, CERCLA, and DOE Order 458.1 processes, and associated communication with involved agencies, are occurring in parallel with and have been integrated with the NEPA process as appropriate. Efforts are focusing on completing these processes in accordance with the NDAA.

The draft EA is enclosed along with a Fact Sheet providing additional details about the public comment period and ways to provide input. An open house and public comment meeting will be held at the Hampton Inn in Richland on July 30, 2015. There will be an open house from 5:00 – 5:30 p.m., a project overview and informal Q & A from 5:30 – 6:00pm., and a formal public comment period from 6:00 – 7:00pm. Formal comments may also be submitted via email to [landconveyanceEA@rl.doe.gov](mailto:landconveyanceEA@rl.doe.gov) or may be mailed to:

NEPA Document Manager  
Land Conveyance EA  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550, Mailstop A2-15  
Richland, Washington 99352



JUL 13 2015

I look forward to hearing your input on the draft EA. If you have any questions, please contact me or you may contact Paula Call, RL NEPA Document Manager, Site Stewardship Division at (509) 376-2048.

Sincerely,

for H. Boyd Hathaway

Karen L. Flynn, Program Manager  
Office of Hanford Acquisition

SSD:PKC

Enclosure

cc w/ enclosure: See page 3

Addressees: - Letter dated  
15-SSD-0041

JUL 13 2015

Addressees:

Cass Hartnett  
University of Washington Suzzallo Library  
P.O. Box 352900  
Seattle, Washington 98195-2900

Claudia Weston  
Portland State University/Bradford Price Millar Library  
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Portland, Oregon 97207-1151

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2770 University Drive  
Richland, Washington 99352

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2440 Stevens Center Place, Room 1101  
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